Non Payment of dues to workers in PSUs

1405. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minsiter of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in a number of public sector undertakings the workers are not being paid their statutory dues even wages in some cases; and

(b) if so, the details of these PSUs and steps taken to ensure the payment of dues to the workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) M/s Jessop & Co., Burn Standard Co. NTC and NMJC are some of the defaulters. The Ministry of Labour has taken up the matter with the concerned administrative Ministries as well as the Ministry of Finance so that funds are made available in time for payment of statutory dues and salaries and wages to the workers.

The Union Labour Minister has also advised creation of a co-ordination mechanism in the Cabinet Secretariat for regular review and monitoring of the status of payment of statutory dues to the workers of Central PSUs and prompt release of budgetary support wherever necessary.

Pricing and supply of rubber

1406. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kerala produces 90% of the natural rubber produced in the coutnry at present;

(b) whether it is also a fact that recent crash in the rubber prices was due to manipulation by the rubber stockists of the state who blocked the release of rubber stock till Government decided to import rubber; and

(c) if so, what measures Government propose to take to regulate the supply of rubber in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) During the year 1994-95, Kerals's share in total production of natural rubber in the country was 93.86%.

(b) and (c) Excess of demand over supply, inadequate inflows of natural rubber into the domestic market in spite of production of 4,71,815 tonnes in 1994-95, fall in import of rubber by the tyre industry against advance licence and a rising trend in international prices of rubber contributed to the rise in domestic prices in early 1995. Keeping in view the existing gap between demand and supply, inventory requirements and the need to ensure availability of rubber at reasonable prices. Government allowed import of natural rubber to the actual users/manufacturers. Since April 1995, there has also been a strong declining trend in international prices of rubber. Since June, 1995 domestic prices of rubber have also shown a declining trend. Government is keeping a close watch on the situation for appropriate action whenever required.

Per capita income in Rajasthan

1407. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether per capita income in Rajasthan has increased or decreased in 1993-94 and 1994-95 as compared to 1992-93;

(b) the estimated per capita income in Rajasthan during the first four months of the current financial year; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the help proposed to be rendered, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

(SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) The per capita NSDP in Rajasthan at constant (1980-81) prices during the years 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95 was Rs. 1934, Rs.1760 and Rs. 2016 respectively, thus showing a decrease in 1993-94 and an increase in 1994-95.

(b) Estimates of NSDP/Per Capita NSDP are not prepared on monthly basis.

(c) The Planning Commission accords due weightage to the States like Rajasthan with pet capita income below national average in the allocation of Central assistance for their speedy development.

Complaints of private rice exporters

1408. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private exporters of rice have blamed the Food Corporation of India for delaying the delivery of rice to them to meet their obligations for exporting the rice to check the revocation of any overseas orders;

(b) if so, the number of exporters who have written to Food Corporation of India in this regard and what action has been taken by FCI thereon;

(c) whether Government are aware of the amount of overseas orders obtained by the exporters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Dedicated coal mines for new power projects

1409. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the policy about dedicated coal mines for new power projects;

(b) how much money is required to develop a new coal mine from a scratch required to provide dedicated supply of coal to a 100 MW Power project; and

(c) how many such fields are available with the Western Coal Fields and what is their location?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) The Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 was amended on 9.6.93 to allow private sector participation in coal mining for generation of power, washing of coal obtained from a mine or for other end uses to be notified by the Government from time to time in addition to the existing provision for the production of iron and steel.

A 100 MW power project may require about 0.5 million tonnes per annum of coal. The capital investment on a mining project is dependent on the system of mining (underground or opencast), geo-mining parameters like depth of deposits, stripping ratio etc. and other techno-economic parameters.

Coal India Ltd. have identified 47 blocks for the purpose of captive mining out of which 14 blocks fall in the command area of Western Coalfields Ltd. These blocks are located in Pench-Kanhan, Mohpani, Wardha Valley and Bander coalfields.

Misappropriation of funds in Super Bazar

1410. SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been misappropriation of Government and public funds and large scale financial irregularities in the furniture, textile, grocery and purchase departments of Super Bazar, New Delhi;

(b) whether the C.B.I., Government Audit and Control Room Party have given adverse remarks in this matter; and

(c) whether Government have held further inquiry into these matters and if